

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-15 (Canceled)

Claim 16 (Currently Amended): A device for closing an opening, comprising:

a frame;

a cover articulated relative to the frame around a first horizontal axis by at least one first hinge between an open position and a closed position, the first hinge comprising a first cover knuckle and a cooperating first frame knuckle;

a locking device having a locked configuration in which the cover is in a first position relative to the frame and is maintained in a locked-open position, and an unlocked configuration in which the cover is in a second position relative to the frame, wherein the cover is configured to be pivoted around the first axis,

wherein the first hinge is configured to permit pivoting of the cover, while bearing on the frame, around a second axis that extends substantially perpendicularly relative to the first axis and horizontally in a mounted condition of the device, and wherein the cover is configured to be moved from the first position relative to the frame toward the second position relative to the frame and vice versa by pivoting the cover around the second axis,

wherein the cover is articulated to the frame by a second hinge comprising a second cover knuckle and a corresponding second frame knuckle, and wherein the locking device is formed by the second hinge, which is configured to lock and unlock the cover in its open position by displacement of the second cover knuckle relative to the second frame knuckle in a substantially radial direction relative to the first axis.

Claim 17 (Cancelled).

Claim 18 (Previously Presented): A device according to claim 16, wherein the device defines a plane of gravity containing the center of gravity of the cover, extending perpendicularly to the first axis and intersecting the first axis at a reference point, the reference point and the second axis defining a first distance, wherein the cover has an end point, which defines a maximum lever arm relative to the second axis, measured along the first axis, and wherein a second distance, measured along the first axis between the end point and the second axis, is longer than the first distance.

Claim 19 (Previously Presented): A device according to claim 18, wherein the second distance is longer than three times the first distance.

Claim 20 (Previously Presented): A device according to claim 18, wherein the first distance is shorter than a third distance between the second hinge and the second axis.

Claim 21 (Previously Presented): A device according to claim 18, wherein, relative to the second axis, the reference point and the second hinge are disposed on a same side of the first axis.

Claim 22 (Currently Amended): A device according to claim ~~[[17]]~~ 16, wherein the second hinge is configured to be locked by displacement of the second cover knuckle substantially vertically downward in the mounted condition of the device.

Claim 23 (Previously Presented): A device according to claim 22, wherein the first and second frame knuckles are formed by seats that are upwardly open in the mounted

condition of the device, and wherein the first and second cover knuckles are formed by pivots connected to the cover.

Claim 24 (Previously Presented): A device according to claim 23, wherein the seat of the second hinge has a depth greater than a depth of the seat of the first hinge, measured vertically relative to the first axis.

Claim 25 (Previously Presented): A device according to claim 24, wherein the seat of the first hinge is provided with a bottom wall on which the first cover knuckle of the first hinge bears, and wherein the seat of the second hinge is provided with an opening and a blocking surface configured to cooperate with the pivot of the second hinge when the second hinge is in its locked position.

Claim 26 (Previously Presented): A device according to claim 16, wherein the cover has a circular general shape.

Claim 27 (Previously Presented): A device according to claim 16, wherein the cover has a triangular general shape and the first hinge and the locking device are disposed on a same side of the triangular shape.

Claim 28 (Previously Presented): A device according to claim 27, wherein the triangle is a right triangle, the same side of the triangle being one side of the right angle of the triangle, and wherein the locking device is situated closer to the other side of the right angle than the first hinge.

Claim 29 (Previously Presented): A device according to claim 16, wherein the cover is a sealing lid.

Claim 30 (Previously Presented): A device according to claim 16, wherein the locked-open position and the closed position define an angle of substantially 90° between one another.